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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/053,081	01/17/2002	Louis A. Lippincott	42390P10846	5544

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EXAMINER

PATEL, KANJIBHAI B

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 11/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/053,081

Applicant(s)

LIPPINCOTT, LOUIS A.

Examiner

Kanji Patel

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 12-15 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-6 and 8-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-3 and 7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 3/29/02 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Formal Drawings filed on 3/29/02 have been approved by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted steps are:

bypassing a two dimensional compression of the predetermined number of bits if the predetermined number of bits all have the same binary value, otherwise, compressing a first bit of the predetermined number of bits.

These claims are incomplete because no structural connection or relationship is set forth between the claimed elements or steps.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kim (US 5,067,023).

For claim 1, Kim discloses a method of implementing the compression of a two-dimensional bit stream (column 1, lines 33-40; MMR or modified MR two-dimensional compressor coding method is widely known as the CCITT group 4 compression scheme) comprising:

receiving the two dimensional bit stream (at least binary image data input to FIFO memory 1 in figure 1); and

determining whether a predetermined number of bits (in figure 5, run length = 6, run length = 4, run length = 4 for white pixel and black pixel show predetermined number of bits) of the two-dimensional bit stream all have the same binary value (in figure 1, pixel color discriminator 2 determines all white pixels representing same binary value 1 in block 3 and black pixel value representing same binary value 0 in block 4).

For claim 4, Kim discloses the method, wherein the two-dimensional bit stream has a run count determined by a plurality of counters (at least in figure 1, blocks 3 and block 4 provide black and white run length counters or calculators).

For claim 5, Kim discloses the method, wherein the predetermined number of bits is a byte (figure 7).

For claim 6, see the rejection of claim 1 above. A logic and a register are shown in figures 1-4.

For claim 8, Kim discloses the integrated circuit, wherein said two dimensional compression complies with the CCITT Group bi-level image compression standard

(column 1, lines 33-40; MMR or modified MR two-dimensional compressor coding method is widely known as the CCITT group 4compression scheme).

For claim 9, see the rejection of claim 4 above and also figure 5.

For claim 10, Kim discloses the integrated circuit wherein the logic is coupled to detect a change in a state of the bit stream (in figure 2, D flip flop 11 determines the change in the state by black and white pixel state that is 0 and 1).

For claim 11, see the rejection of claim 5 above.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. **Claims 2-3, 7** are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 12-15 are allowed.

For claim 12, the prior art on record fails to teach or suggest, alone or in combination, for a document processing system, " the logic to bypass compression of the predetermined number of bits if the predetermined number of bits all have the same binary value".

Other prior art cited

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Linehan (US 4,809,081) discloses a method and apparatus for decompressing encoded data.

Corcoran et al. (US 5,293,251) disclose encoding/decoding system with two-stages of encoding/decoding.

Jacobs (US 5,369,500) discloses a method and apparatus for determining facsimile quality and system using same.

Sato (US 4,800,441) discloses a binary data compression and expansion processing apparatus.

Pennebaker et al. (US 4,965,677) discloses compression of binary halftones.

Caneschi et al. (US 4,571,634) disclose a digital image information compression and decompression method and apparatus.

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kanji Patel whose telephone number is (703) 305-4011. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta, can be reached on (703) 308-5246. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


KANJIBHAI PATEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER